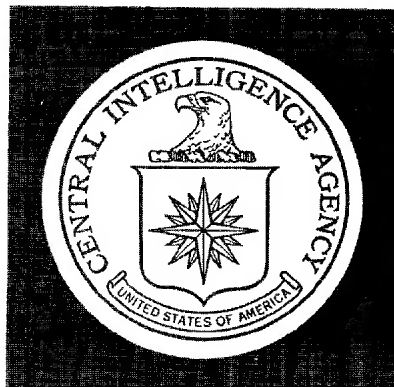


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DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE

# Intelligence Memorandum

*Shipping to Cambodia in the Fourth Quarter of 1967  
and Trends in 1967*

MORI/CDF

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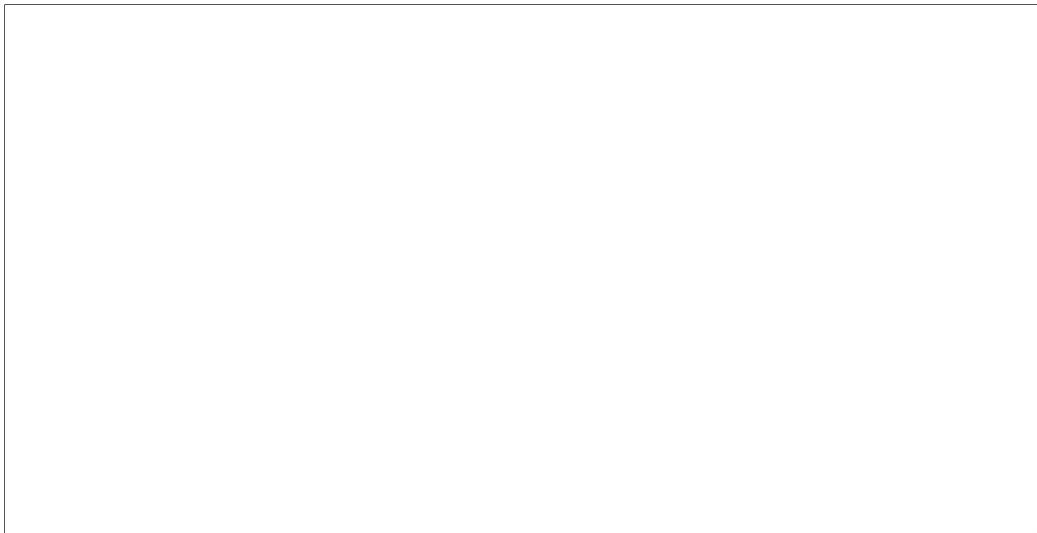
ER IM 68-49

May 1968

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Foreword

This memorandum analyzes the pattern of foreign shipping to Cambodian ports to help in determining whether arms or military related goods are reaching the Viet Cong through Cambodia.

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[redacted] is the second report written on a quarterly basis. Since there are only minor seasonal variations in shipping to Cambodia, most comparisons in this memorandum are made with the previous quarters of 1967 rather than with the fourth quarter of 1966. To provide additional perspective, a section has been included comparing shipping to Cambodia in 1967 as a whole with that in 1965 and 1966. The data for the fourth quarter of 1967 are preliminary and may be modified as additional information becomes available. For the purpose of this memorandum, Yugoslavia is considered to be a country of the Free World. Cargo weights are expressed in metric tons. The term *imports*, as used in this memorandum, refers only to imports by sea.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
May 1968

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Shipping to Cambodia  
in the Fourth Quarter of 1967  
and Trends in 1967

Summary

Imports to Cambodia by sea increased by 15 percent during the last quarter of 1967, despite a drop in ship calls. Larger deliveries of cement accounted for most of the increase in imports. South Vietnam closed the Mekong River from mid-October through early November, but, as in the two preceding quarters, Phnom Penh handled more ships and cargo than Sihanoukville. Communist ships, which visit only Sihanoukville, made seven calls, two less than the average for the first three quarters of 1967. Imports from Communist countries were somewhat higher in the fourth quarter.

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During the fourth quarter, Cambodia received its first cargo of the year from the USSR, a shipment of cement.

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Note: This memorandum was produced solely by CIA.  
It was prepared by the Office of Economic Research.

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During 1967 as a whole, the number of merchant ship calls at Cambodian ports decreased for the third consecutive year. Communist ships made 33 of the 568 calls in 1967, compared with 47 of the 600 calls in 1966. Seaborne imports rose [redacted] in 1967 [redacted] and were heavier at Phnom

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Penh than Sihanoukville, despite the convoy system on the Mekong begun by South Vietnam in November 1966. Shipments of petroleum and cement both increased significantly in 1967 [redacted]

Imports from

Communist countries dropped [redacted]

[redacted] in 1967, largely because of a fall in deliveries from China and, to a lesser extent, North Vietnam. [redacted]

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**SECRET**Ship Arrivals and Imports by Sea

1. Ship calls at Cambodian ports dropped from 153 in the third quarter of 1967 to 133 in the fourth quarter, the smallest number since the fourth quarter of 1965. Fifty-three percent of the calls were at Phnom Penh and 47 percent at Sihanoukville. Despite the lower number of calls, Cambodia's imports by sea increased [redacted]

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[redacted] in the fourth, slightly above the average for the first three quarters. Sixty-one percent of the imports were delivered to Phnom Penh and 39 percent to Sihanoukville. The continuing predominance of Phnom Penh over Sihanoukville since the second quarter of 1967 is shown in the tabulation below:

	<u>Quarters</u>				<u>Total</u>
	<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>	<u>Fourth</u>	
	<u>Ship Arrivals</u>				
Sihanoukville	62	56	56	62	236
Phnom Penh <u>a/</u>	74	90	97	71	332
<i>Total</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>568</i>

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Shipping to Sihanoukville

Ship Traffic

2. Free World ships -- mostly French, Greek, Panamanian, Japanese, and Norwegian -- made 55 of the 62 ship calls at Sihanoukville during the fourth quarter (see Table 1). Seven of the calls were by Free World ships chartered to Communist China, and one by a Greek ship chartered to Czechoslovakia. The seven calls by Communist ships included four Soviet, two Chinese, and one Polish ship. Two of the Soviet ships delivered cement from the USSR and two arrived in ballast to load rice for Gdynia.

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Shipping to Phnom Penh

Ship Traffic

9. Ship calls at Phnom Penh dropped from 97 in the third quarter to 71 in the fourth. The suspension of shipping on the Mekong River from 14 October to 2 November by South Vietnam was partly responsible for this drop. Only two of the four convoys of merchant ships that normally go up river to Phnom Penh each month departed in October.\* At least five ships bound for Phnom Penh are known to have been diverted to Sihanoukville. Tankers made 36 calls at Phnom Penh during the quarter and dry cargo ships 35 calls (see Table 3).

10. Ships of seven Free World countries called at Phnom Penh during the fourth quarter of 1967. There were 24 calls by Japanese ships, 22 by Panamanian, nine by Cambodian, eight by French, six by Singapore, and one each by Dutch and South Korean (see Table 1).

\* Since late 1964, international shipping to Phnom Penh via the Mekong River has been subject to regulations issued by the government of South Vietnam. The latest regulations, issued in November 1966, require that all ships transiting the Mekong River on international voyages to and from Phnom Penh sail in convoys escorted by South Vietnamese gunboats. Four round trip convoys are permitted each month with a maximum turnaround period of 72 hours in Cambodia.

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Table 4

Cambodia: Merchant Ship Arrivals at Sihanoukville and Phnom Penh  
by Flag a/  
1965-67

Flag	1965			1966			1967		
	Sihanouk- ville	Phnom Penh	Total	Sihanouk- ville	Phnom Penh	Total	Sihanouk- ville	Phnom Penh	Total
Communist countries	<u>22</u>		<u>22</u>	<u>47</u>		<u>47</u>	<u>33</u>		<u>33</u>
Bulgaria	4		4				1		1
Communist China	6		6	13		13	11		11
Czechoslovakia	1		1						
Poland	2		2	21		21	9		9
USSR	9		9	13		13	12		12
Free World	<u>253</u>	<u>423</u>	<u>676</u>	<u>214</u>	<u>339</u>	<u>553</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>332</u>	<u>535</u>
Cambodia	9	26	35	7	54	61	6	39	45
Cyprus				1		1	3		3
Denmark				4		4	7		7
France	62	111	173	74	91	165	68	49	117
Greece	15		15	33		33	24		24
India	4		4				1		1
Indonesia							2	1	3
Italy	1		1	1		1	1		1
Japan	20	52	72	11	58	69	14	92	106
Korea								1	1
Lebanon	7		7						
Liberia	3	3	6				1		1
Malaya	1		1		10	10			
Malta				2		2			
Morocco	1		1						
Netherlands	8	13	21	6	5	11	3	5	8
Norway	16	2	18	14		14	15		15

Table 4

Cambodia: Merchant Ship Arrivals at Sihanoukville and Phnom Penh  
by Flag a/  
1965-67  
(Continued)

Flag	1965			1966			1967		
	Sihanouk- ville	Phnom Penh	Total	Sihanouk- ville	Phnom Penh	Total	Sihanouk- ville	Phnom Penh	Total
Pakistan							2		2
Panama	48	170	218	18	104	122	22	109	131
Singapore				1		1	5	31	36
Spain							1		1
Sweden							1		1
Switzerland	4		4	2	1	3	4		4
United Kingdom	31	42	73	21	16	37	15	5	20
United States		2	2						
West Germany	2		2						
Yugoslavia	17		17	19		19	8		8
Unidentified	4	2	6						
Total	<u>275</u>	<u>423</u>	<u>698</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>339</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>236</u>	<u>332</u>	<u>568</u>

a. Including only arrivals of seagoing ships from foreign ports; excluding arrivals from Cambodian ports.

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